

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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USDOCOSOUTH
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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCH, JUNE 3

SUMMARY: PERMREPS, AT THEIR REGULAR TUESDAY LUNCHEON ON JUNE 3, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT FOR SERVING AS AS HOST TO NATO SUMMIT, AND DISCUSSED DATES FOR SPRING 1976 NAC AND DPC MINISTERIALS, WARNING TIME, AND NAVAL VISITS. ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING GREECE-NATO RELATIONS AND PORTUGUESE MATTERS ARE REPORTED SEPTELS. END SUMMARY:

1. APPRECIATION TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT FOR HOSTING NATO SUMMIT. AMBASSADOR BRUCE ASKED THE DEAN OF THE PERMREPS, BELGIAN AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE, TO EXPRESS TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT THE GRATITUDE OF PRESIDENT FORD AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION FOR THE GENEROUS HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO THEM BY THE HOST NATION OF THE MAY 1975 NATO SUMMIT. BRUCE ALSO THANKED DE STAERCKE FOR HIS PERSONAL EFFORTS TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL MEETING. OTHER PERMREPS FOLLOWED WITH SIMILAR COMMENTS.

2. DATES FOR SPRING 1976 NAC AND DPC MINISTERIALS. AMBASSADOR

BUSCH (NORWAY) AID HIS GOVERNMENT IS NOW PROPOSING 19 AND 20 MAY AS DATES FOR THE SPRING 1976 NAC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN OSLO. BUSCH NOTED THESE DATES WOULD FIX THE NATO MEETING SHORTLY AFTER NORWAY'S MOST IMORTANT NATIONAL HOLIDAY (CONSITUTION DAY, MAY 17). BUSCH SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE AN ANSWER BY ALL PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS WITHIN TWO WEEKS. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANSWERS HIS GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT THESE DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE. AMBASSADOR MENZIES (CANDA) SUGGESTED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT THESPRING 1976 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD AT BRUSSELS SHOULD TAKE PLACE ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE OSLO NAC MINISTERIAL. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL (SEE USNATO 2765 AND USNATO 2999).

3. WARNING TIME. SYG LUNS INFORMED PERMREPS ON HIS JUNE 2 VISIT TO STUTTGART FOR FIVE HOURS OF MILITARY BRIEFING. HE FOUND GENERAL GEORGE J. EADE, DEPUTY USCINCEUR, GRAVELY CONCERNED ABOUT NAC CONSIDERATIONS OVER WARNING TIME. EADE THOUGHT THAT A SHORT WARNING TIME IS MUCH MORE LIKELY THAN HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED. THE SYG SUPPORTS EADE'S VIEW OF THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY TO HAVE ALTERNATIVE LANDING FIELDS TO TAKE CARE OF U.S. AIR FORCE REQUIREMENTS IN EUROPE, WITH SUCH FACILITIES BOTH FOR REINFORCEMENT PURPOSES AND TO SOME EXTENT FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS. AMBASSADORS MENZIES AND PECK PICKED UP ON THE SUBJECT OF EARLY WARNING TIME, AND DISCUSSED THE DIFFERENCES IN INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES BETWEEN CAPABILITIES INTENTIONS.

4. NAVAL VISITS. THE SYG ANNOUNCED THAT THE STANDING NAVAL FORCE ATLANTIC AND THE STANDINGNAVAL FORCE CHANNEL WOULD BOTH VISIT ANTWERP ON SEPT 26. A TRIP BY PERMREPS TO VIEW THESE FORCES MAY BE IN THE OFFING.BRUCE

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